



## **H.R. 3248 – To amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act**

### **Floor Situation**

H.R. 3248 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative James Oberstar (D-MN) on July 31, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, but was not considered.

H.R. 3248 is expected to be considered on the floor on August 1, 2007.

### **Executive Summary**

H.R. 3248 makes technical corrections to the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users ("SAFETEA-LU"), which was signed into law by President Bush on August 10, 2005 (PL 109-59). The bill will ensure that Congressional intent is upheld and that all policies, programs, and projects embodied in the authorization law are implemented as intended by Congress.

The bill extends the deadline for the The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, created in SAFETEA-LU, to report to Congress on the condition and future needs of the nation's surface transportation system, and also short and long-term alternatives to replace or supplement the fuel tax as the principal revenue source to support the Highway Trust Fund over the next 30 years. H.R. 3248 increases funding available to the Department of Transportation to carry out the Commission's mission.

### **Summary**

Title I of the bill makes technical corrections to the highway provisions in SAFETEA-LU. Some of these programs that are corrected include:

- Surface Transportation provisions;
- Magnetic Levitation program;

- Projects for national and regional significance and national corridor infrastructure improvements;
- 346 changes or modifications are made to projects authorized under section 1702 of SAFETEA-LU;
- Nonmotorized transportation pilot program;
- Interstate and National Highway System Designations program;
- Future of Transportation System program;
- 23 changes or modifications are made to projects under the Transportation Improvements provision;
- Highway design and research;
- Increases the rescission of unobligated balances of highway contract authority on September 30, 2009, by \$117 million.
- Modifies the definition of Repeat Intoxicated Driver Law; and
- Future Interstate Design.

Title II of the bill makes technical corrections to the transit provisions of SAFETEA-LU. H.R. 3248 also makes technical corrections to other surface transportation provisions. Some of these programs that are corrected include:

- Motor Carrier Safety;
- Hazardous materials transportation; and,
- Highway Safety;

Title IV includes miscellaneous provisions, including:

- Installing a photovoltaic system at the Department of Energy's headquarters in Washington, DC. The bill authorizes \$30 million for this project;
- The conveyance of the GSA Fleet management center to the Alaska Railroad Corporation; and,
- The conveyance of the retained interest in St. Joseph Memorial Hall.

**Background**

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (H.R. 3) guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$244.1 billion. This was the largest investment in the transportation system in our nation's history.

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 3 on July 29, 2005, by a recorded vote of 412 - 8 ([Roll no. 453](#)).

**Cost**

The Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation.

**Staff Contact**

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